(c) It is not clear as to which three nationalised companies are referred to in the question.

(d) Does not arise.

Letters of intent for Gas distribution in U.P.

3666. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any request from U.P. State Industrial Development Corporation (a State Government Company) for issue of letters of Intent for Gas Distribution System in Firozabad-Agra-Ghaziabad-Khurja and Noida areas has been received ;and

(b) if so, what is its present status ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) Request for allocation of gas have been received.

(b) In 1989 GAIL had been asked to allot the gas to UPSIDC for these regions and UPSIDC was to take the gas from GAIL's pipeline and work out the details of the scheme with GAIL. According to GAIL though UPSIDC had undertaken market studies but no specific proposal is pending for consideration.

Natural Gas Reserves

3667. SHRIMATI MIRA DAS :
SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA :
SHRI SOM PAL :
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the recoverable reserve of the natural gas in the country;

(b) what is the total consumption of gas at present and what is the flared up percentage against that ;

(c) what is the quantum of committed gas and to whom it is committed; and

(d) what is the revenue earned from the gas and expenditure incurred on its production?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) As on 31-3-1990, 686 billion cu. mts.

(b) while 38 MMSCMD is being consumed, about 11 MMSCMD is flarred.

(c) About 92 MMSCMD of gas has been allocated to various units in various sectors including power, fertiliser, spongs iron etc.

(d) In 1990-91, revenue earned from gas was about Rs. 1678.34 crores. As gas is produced both as associated and non-associated gas cost of production is not separately estimated.

Replacement of Wooden/Steel Sleepers

3668. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERAM :
SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to replace wooden/steel sleepers with concerete sleepers at such Railway zones where super-fast trains are running as reported in the Navbharat Times (Delhi edition) dated 26th January, 1992 ;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the quantity of concrete sleepers pro

duced by the Railway establishment are inadequate ;

(d) whether Government propose to provide advance technology being developed by R & D railways for manufacturing of concrete sleepers by Private entrepreneurs to meet the continuous growing demand and save forests for better environment; and

(e) if so, the names and addresses of the authorities to be approached by entrepreneurs for obtaining technology and technical know-how for the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) and (b) Concrete sleepers are being laid on all high density routes as a part of track renewals planned on such routes.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Railways are already providing such advanced technology to the private entrepreneurs.

(e) Research, Designs & Standards Organisation, Lucknow.

Waiting room at Guwahati Railway Station

3669. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the upkeep of the first class waiting room at Guwahati Railway Station is in poor shape ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the waiting room is not large enough considering the huge number of passengers travelling from Guwahati ; and

(c) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Railway land in Assam

3670. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a large area of railway land lying un-utilised at Pandu, Amingaon, Maligaon and New Guwahati in Assam, where there has been encroachment over that land ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that some of the encroachers are demanding allotment of that land to them on lease-basis; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken by Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The railway administration has taken action to evict the encroachers from Railway Land under provisions of the Public Premises (Eviction of unauthorised occupants) Act, 1971. The Railways have, however, offered to relinquish 90 acre of railway land at Amingaon to the State Government for rehabilitation of the refugees who have encroached upon railway land in Pandu-Guwahati area. Further action in the matter rests with the State Government.

Special train from New Jalpaiguri to Delhi

3671. SHRI RATNA BAHADUR RAI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal for the introduction of the special train